

July 20, 1942.

Mr. Joe Lewis,
169 Key Road,
Portsmouth, Va.

Dear Mr. Lewis:

I have just received your letter of July 17th, and I am hastening to answer it. First of all, I am sorry we did not secure the 5th and 6th in Portsmouth, as I had written Cincinnati I would play them there on those dates. It never entered my mind that there would any question about us being able to secure the dates, however, I can understand all the teams being anxious to come into that territory, as it looks very good now. It is too bad our baseball isn't organized so that situations like these could be handled intelligently and everyone would benefit alike, however, our baseball today has been a very poorly handled business, everyone acting in a selfish manner always. In fairness to the fans who support us, we should try and arrange intelligent schedules in all cities, so as to assure the fans a variety of all teams, as well as measuring them up fairly, even however such a program as that is a long ways off, so as things stand now we will all have to seek the dates we want and just hope to get them.

Due to the fact that the three important cities Portsmouth, Norfolk and Newport News are so close together, and you three men handling them all know each other, I don't see why we should not be able to handle everything in perfect harmony. I understand the 11th and 12th in Newport News has been reserved for the Eagles. We are scheduled with the Chicago American Giants in Newark Sunday, August 16th, I doubt that we could play in Portsmouth the night of the 15th and get here in time for a Sunday afternoon doubleheader, in view of this fact I will not ask you to hold the 15th for me. I will, however, appreciate you holding the 14th for the next two or three days, I will give you a definite answer by that time.

I want to thank you for your letter, and hope we will be able to work out some beneficial games to the satisfaction of all of us. If I can be of any assistance, do not hesitate to call on me.

Very truly yours,

EM:CCJ